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W. H. BYARS - -CLARE B. IRVINE - -

CHRISTMAS MUSINGS.

How easy it is to sneer at and say, "I don't believe." Incredulity has become in our age the mark of ignorance. In old times credulity was the mark of it. But the masses ever follow the opinions of the learned men, in time. By the year 1750 it was the fashion among the learned to decry and discredit everything like superstition and belief in signs, wonders, witches, fortune telling, and the like. The Bible and miracles were explained away. By the year 1825 the masses generally imitated the learned. Unbelief was extreme. By 1850 who believed in the moon's influence, in "water witches," or in a thousand other former creeds of the kind?

A wise old philosopher once said, "It is never safe to discredit entirely any widespread, long existing belief of the people." And now today we are seeing that he was a wise man uttering a profound truth. Slowly, during the past forty years, has it been discovered that even the most seemingly absurd superstitions had some foundations of truth in them. The moon is now recognized as the greatest factor in our weather phenomena. Science declares that if there were no moon and no planets in our system-but our earth and the sun-cach day of the year would be precisely the same as the day of the year preceding. And those who have the management of great enterprises, requiring supplies of water, are sure to consult "water witches." Some few persons receive large salarles simply because they can find metals by their peculiar sensations in passing over the veins where they exist. Healing the sick by touching is much more common-By the practice than was homeopathy forty years ago, Wonderful cures are done at a distance by persons who never see their patients and use no medicine or visible communication. Scientific men of world-wide fame have been engaged on crucial experimenting in the regions of the mysterious, the awful and unearthly, and report, one after the other, of wonders surpassing the Arabian Nights, "Behold! They are even true.

At this Christmas time is it not meet to seriouily reflect on these things, in view of the fact, that, while so many are easting about for a new religion with more science and philosophy in it than faith, and are looking for a new coming of something, we are rejoicing in the social and spiritual influence upon all modern life of Him who said that they who came after Him should not only perform the same wonders that He did, but should work even greater ones. Truly, eyes have we, yet see not ; ears, and hear not. The great things to come are upon us, around us, and even under our feet. And the question as to the future life of even one human being is of far more importance than all the things of this world put together, if this mortal is ever to put on immortality. Muse.

A Fine Piece of Work.

The West Shore for January is to be one of the finest issues that suc-cosful journal has known. This edition is to be devoted to Salem and many superior illustrations have been prepared for it. This maga-zine is the only one on the coast that is prepared for the execution of such artistic work. Even from the east, Mr. Samuels receives many orders for illustrations. This New Year number of the West Shore will be a treat to your friends over the mountains. You should get a few copies and work a little as an immigration agent. immigration agent.

SCIENTIFIC SQUIBS.

Self massage for the cure of dyspepsia is

Wine is now aged by electricity, the wine by this means acquiring all the bouquet of old wine

It is reported that the storage batteries on the Brussels tramway have deteriorated so that the cost is increased to nearly II cents per car mile, as against 10 cents for horse

The omnipresent microbs has been detected in boils. This discovery shows that the method of poulticing is wrong, as the beat and moisture aid the development of the mi crobs. An anticeptic treatment is best.

It is a curious fact that a fat hog may gill and eat a rattlesnake with impunity, for reason that the smake driver its fung into fat, but does not reach the blood vessels thin hog has no such shield and must bewr

An agent of the forestry department, Parris, has reached the conclusion that rings on these are not an accurate record the new of the tree. Mr Farris has for those 5 years old, and elever in those of o

Pyrofuscine the new tanning agent, is tained by digesting coul tar with can edn at a boil and neutralizing the result liques with nydrochiors ucid. The invenroces and from 20 to 80 per cent. chea than the aunic process.

According to ar English authority, world consumes annually 650,000 tons coffee, which, at an average price of \$4 represents a value of \$250,000,000 Jama grows the best coffee, next in order co Ceylon and East India, Java, Brazil, Co Rica and the other Central American stat Java produces the largest crop.

A correspondent of The English Meche says "I once asked a foreman in a known bell foundry whether putting si in a melting pot was of advantage. He piles, of great advantage—to the founder the silver sinks to the bottom, the four pours off the copper and tin and when silver has cooled, puts it in his pocket."

A Boston genius has been estimating candle power of the moon. By compari with an electric lamp of 400 candle powe e certain distance he finds the light of tnoon to be 184,000,000,000,000,000. This, calculates, is about the number of cand pinced one half inch apart, it would take cover one-half the surface of the moon.

In a recent Chinese procession at San Fra risec there was a great dragon in effigy wh was manipulated by electricity On pressi n putton the current caused the huge jaws the monster to fly open, displaying fright lange and forked tongues darting fire. other series of wires produced frightful co tortions and emitted sheets of fire from

THE LATEST IN JEWELS.

A daisy, having a topaz center and d mond paved petals, makes a beautiful broo-A saddle, below which is a riding whips bridle, in repousse, is a pleasing pattern match toxes

A leopard's head, handsomely marked, h ng topas eyes, is a pretty addition to ameied scarf pins.

An oval shaped opal, around which coiled a make of Roman gold, is a novel sign to scarf pina

A dainty indies' watch has a miniate painting in enamel on its back, surround by a ring of tiny gleaming pearls. A peculiar brooch represents an alligate

bend. The scales are turquoises and the e are rubies surrounded by diamonds. A tiny bell of Roman gold, the extercompletely covered with forget-me-nots, i

pleasing pattern in queen chain pendanta. A small peart shaped watch case in d gold, in the center of which is a bunch of a

ameled flowers and grasses, is much admir-A pinwheel of dull gold emitting sparks crimson enamel is a design in scarf pi which reminds us that the day of pyrotoc nics is not far off.

A pretty scarf pin of sardonyx represen the head of a negro jockey The cap is gold, red and bine stripes being represents by rubics and sapphires.

An oxidized silver bonbonniere recent seen had upon the cover, in relief, a well e ecuted mythological head. Around the rit at equal distances, were set six opals.

A pretty bracelet is of Roman gold, repr senting short sections of a bollow reed, by together by gold squares. Small gems set in those reeds which show on top of the

A popular pattern in oxidized silver match safes is of a size ample to hold the ordinary parior matches, while the design, in repous represents a folded sail, a tiller and a coil of

A watch shown by a downtown dealer would be entirely hidden by a twenty-five cent piece. On the back, in straight lines. are set thirty-seven brilliants and thirty-two

Among the handsomest miniature portrait prooches now shown is a painting of Deshon hers on ivory Surrounding it is a flashing circle of forty-five sparkling diamonds. Jewelers' Weekly.

DAUGHTERS OF EVE.

Mrs. Oscar Wilde is fond of yellowish green

Mrs. Cleveland has become an enthusiast on tennis playing.

The Woman's Bicycle club, of Washington, has over seventy members,

Lady Randolph Churchill is now one of the leading authorities on dress in London. Mrs. Henri Labouchere, wife of the editor of London Truth, is making political speeche

in England. The queen of Spain recently gave Sarab Bernhardt a bouquet tied in ribbon and se-

cured by a splendid sapphire mounted with Mrs. Zereids G. Wallace, who is generally referred to as the mother of Gen. Lew Wallace, is in reality his stepmother. His mother

died when he was a boy. Gen. Boulanger's mother, who is a Welsh woman, is 54 years of age. She lives quietly at Ville d'Avray. Her son is very kind to

her, and has always shown her a great deal

of attention. The king of Holland's beiress, the Princess Wilhelmina, aged 7 years, has been betrothed to the 19-year-old prince of Haxe-Weimar. The marriage will units Saxe-Weimer and Holland. STATE OF OHIO, City of Toledo Lucas County, S.

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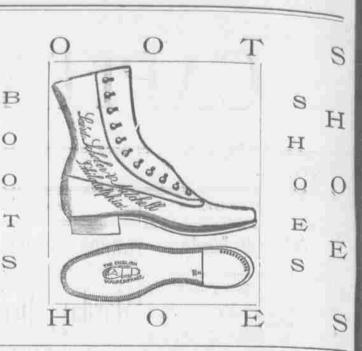
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